

March 3, 2022

To: Environment Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify IN OPPOSITION to HB 5295, An Act Concerning Agricultural Development and Innovation.

Rabbits are pets for many people and are akin to dogs and cats. Killing them for meat is no longer socially acceptable. Major pet stores have stopped selling rabbits (as they did with dogs and cats), which shows just how ingrained rabbits are into our homes. The state should not be setting up processing plants with the goal of promoting rabbit meat consumption or factory farming with the goal of slaughtering rabbits. Eating rabbits is quickly becoming as controversial as eating cats and dogs, the state of Connecticut should not involve itself in this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify IN SUPPORT of SB 239, An Act Prohibiting the Use of Certain Rodenticides for the Protection of Hawks, Raptors and Other Wildlife.

It's been proven that poisons--both first and second generation--cause immense damage to wildlife and kill many non-target species. They also harm pets and children. Prohibiting rodenticides is commendable and should be done; however more should also be done to protect unintentional victims. Severely limiting the use of first generation rodenticides and banning second generation rodenticides (due to the fact that second generation travels in even broader circles in wildlife populations) would be beneficial to the potential victims. Safe, nature-friendly rodent deterrents would serve much better than rodenticides.

Thank you,
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